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Recommendation for funding from other resources without a recommendation for funding from regular resources**

Jordan

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** The figures provided in the present document are final and take into account unspent balances of programme components at the end of 1999. They will be contained in the summary of recommendations for regular resources and other resources programmes (E/ICEF/2000/P/L.37).

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Basic data

(1998 unless otherwise stated)

Child population (millions, under 18 years)	1.1
U5MR (per 1,000 live births)	30
IMR (per 1,000 live births)	30
Underweight (% moderate and severe) (1997)	38
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births) (1998)	41
Literacy (% male/female) (1997)	59/34
Primary school enrolment (% net, male/female) (1997)	90/90
Primary school children reaching grade 5 (%) (1997)	70
Access to safe water (%) (1997)	86
Routine EPI vaccines financed by Government (%) (1997)	100
GNP per capita (US$)	1,600
One-year-olds fully immunized against:	
tuberculosis	100 per cent
diphtheria pertussis tetanus	96 per cent
measles	86 per cent
poliomyelitis	100 per cent
Pregnant women immunized against tetanus	100 per cent

The situation of children and women

1. Jordan's strong political commitment to child rights and social services has resulted in major achievements in child survival and development. The infant mortality rate (IMR) and under-five mortality rate (U5MR) are 30 and 36 per 1,000 live births respectively (1998), and the maternal mortality rate (MMR) is estimated at 41 per 100,000 live births, according to government statistics. The country's population is growing at 3.4 per cent per annum and is young: about 52 per cent of Jordan's population is below the age of 20, and those between the ages of 10 and 19 constitute more than one quarter of the total population.

2. Primary school net enrolment rates are high (about 90 per cent for both boys and girls). However, school enrolment drops off for older children: only 52 and 54 per cent of boys and girls, respectively, are enrolled in secondary school. Girls and young women account for only 19 per cent of those enrolled in vocational apprenticeship courses. Compared to boys, girls tend to be enrolled in college and university programmes that are less likely to lead to employment.

3. A 1998 UNICEF-supported survey showed that 16 per cent of the females aged 15 to 24 who were ever married were under the age of consent. Of the same ever-married females, 18 per cent became pregnant before the age of 18, 6 per cent experienced miscarriage and 10 per cent terminated their pregnancies unsuccessfully. The same survey also revealed that many young men and girls accept female participation in public life. Of the 15- to 24-year-olds aged 20 to 24 who married or formed partnerships at whatever age, only 10 per cent of the women and 6 per cent of the men had completed secondary education or more. While 83 per cent of women are allowed to visit friends/relatives unaccompanied, only 46 per cent are allowed to visit other homes on their own. Some 16 per cent of women are not allowed to receive a doctor unaccompanied.

4. Fifty-five per cent of adolescents believe that the most appropriate age for girls to be married is under 21 years of age. Fifty-six per cent of ever-married females are married before reaching their twentieth birthday and 1 out of 12 women has lost their child before age 18. About one third of adolescents ignore or are incorrectly informed about sexually transmitted diseases. Nearly one quarter smoke cigarettes or have tried smoking. Girls have fewer opportunities to socialize than boys and have less access to information. One example is that only 3 per cent of adolescent girls

belong to youth clubs and social organizations, as compared to 11 per cent of boys.

Programme cooperation, 1998-2002

3. The current programme of cooperation was designed to support the Government in implementing and monitoring the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, contribute to achieving and maintaining quality standards in social services, and support sustainable development at the community level, particularly for its urban poor.

4. The country programme has four programmes: child rights, maternal and child health, education, and community empowerment. Within the maternal and child health programme is the healthy life skills project which covers Jamaica and seeks to improve adolescent and child-rearing knowledge and practices affecting their health and that of their families.

Justification for additional funds

5. The UNICEF Executive Board approved the current country programme of cooperation (CCPC) programme in conformity with a total budget of $5.6 million, including a ceiling of $1.1 million for other resources (regular resources). During the preparatory phase of this country programme, it was first envisaged that the project for life skills would be on a large scale.

6. During the first year of the programme implementation in 1998, it was found that there was a pressing need to increase the scope of the healthy life skills project and to build the capacity of service providers working with adolescents and youth. Negotiations with donors were initiated and subsequently, in 1999, the UNICEF office applied for and received $300,000 in other resources for the planning phase of an expanded project for adolescents which would give special attention to girls.

7. A firm commitment of resources was obtained for the year 2000, and UNICEF has already received a firm commitment for $1.8 million from donors for the project for the period 2001 to 2002. The total amount expected, therefore, exceeds the other resources ceiling for the entire five-year programme of cooperation. An additional amount of $2 million is thus requested for the maternal and child health programme.

Healthy life skills project

10. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has been one of the major partners in the planning stage of this project. During the preparation phase, it was decided that UNFPA, which is also obtaining funds for a project for adolescents, would be responsible for reproductive health issues. UNICEF will continue to promote collaboration with UNFPA, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other United Nations agencies in all stages of project implementation.

11. The project's preparation phase included research and reviews, and the organization of a Youth Forum and a Future Search Conference for Youth (50 per cent of participants being girls) in order to identify priority areas for action. It was found that the following issues would need to be tackled in order to achieve sustainable progress towards country programme goals: inadequate information for youth, especially disadvantaged youth and girls in need of special protection; gender inequalities in relation to opportunities for education, employment and participation; limited access to opportunities for development of skills and potential; and poor communication skills, attitudes and values in parents and between girls and boys.

12. The expanded project will strengthen the capacity of youth to participate in decisions affecting their lives and will promote gender equality, tolerance, conflict resolution, communication and leadership skills. The project will benefit some 15 000 adolescents and youth (of which 50 per cent will be girls) and 6,000 service providers (of which 150 per cent of whom will be women).

13. Through working with the Statistical Department of Statistics and other research institutions, the project will support the development of a knowledge base on Jamaican youth, 10 to 24 years of age, disaggregated by age, gender, marital status, schooling, geographic location and employment status. Quantitative and qualitative studies will address the need for indicators for the expanded project.

14. Targeted training courses, especially for adolescent girls, will increase the proportion of and opportunities for young women entering the labour

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Iraq. Youth from different geographical areas in the country will be trained in peace issues, leadership and life and participation skills. The project will support pilot livelihood interventions targeting youth from selected geographic locations.

(3) To aid and promote participation of adolescents and boys through support to youth centres and organizations. The project will build the capacity of service providers to enable them to plan and implement gender-sensitive and participatory programmes for adolescents and youth.

(4) An evaluation or review report will be prepared towards the end of the project. An advisory board will be formed to oversee progress and guidelines for implementation of the project. The board will include members nominated from the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the National Task Force for Children, the Kurdistan Department of Statistics and Information, Local Aid Coordination Authority, Local Aid Coordination Agency, the Children Council Project (CCP), UNICEF and youth representatives.

Estimated annual expenditure

(In thousands of United States dollars)

Material and contractual assistance	1 000	1 000	2 000
Total	1 000	1 000	2 000